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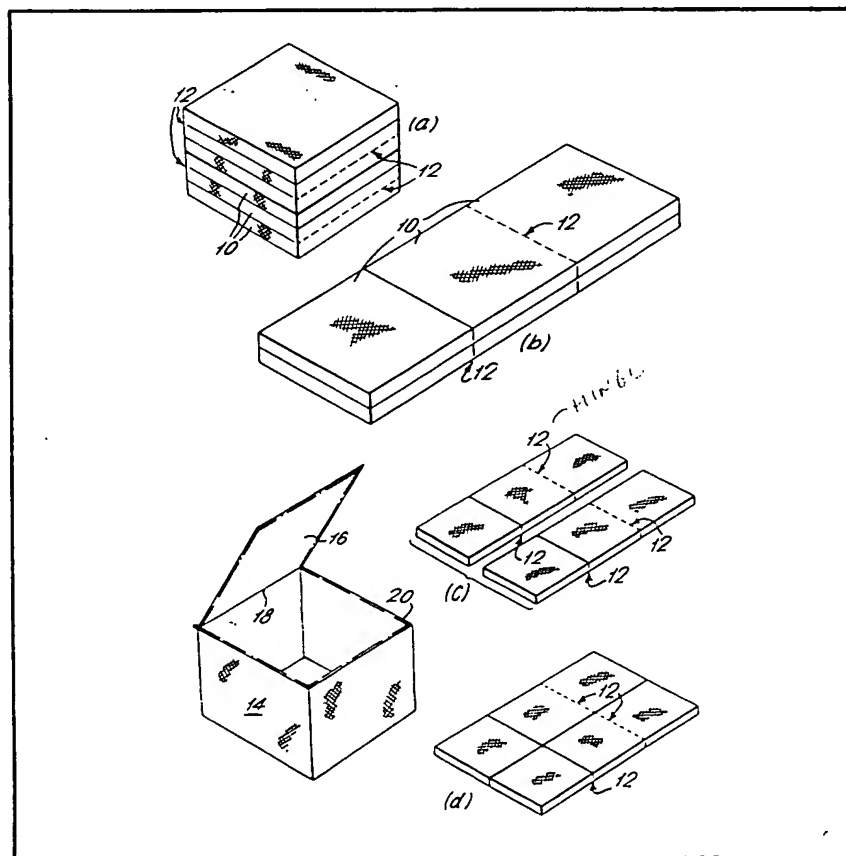
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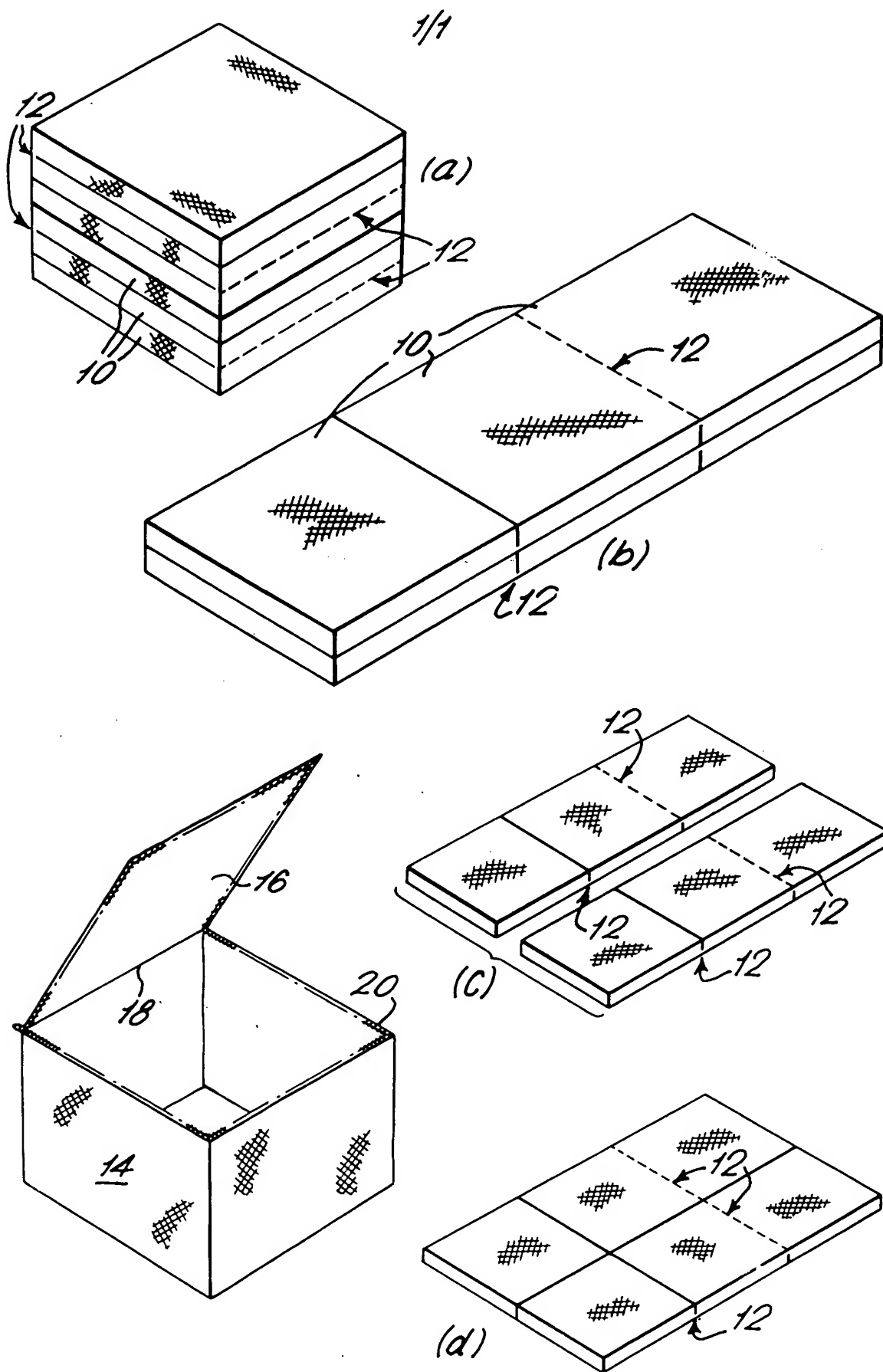
## (54) Mattresses Convertible into Pouffe

(57) A pouffe/bed comprises two mattresses each comprising a plurality of elements (10) hinged (12) together

so that when folded up they form a stack, and a cover (14) which can be fitted to enclose the stack to form a cuboidal unit. One can thus convert from a pouffe, to a single bed, to two single beds or to a double bed.



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## SPECIFICATION

### Convertible Furniture

This invention relates to convertible furniture, and is particularly concerned with convertible furniture which is based upon the use of a plurality of pieces of plastics foam or equivalent material which can be arranged in different configurations to serve different purposes as alternative articles of furniture.

The present invention is more particularly concerned with convertible furniture which in one arrangement forms a pouffe and which in an alternative arrangement converts into a single bed, a double bed or a pair of single beds.

It is already known to provide a piece of convertible furniture which comprises a fabric-covered foam mattress, hinged in three pieces, which is arranged to be laid on a lightweight tubular sprung frame, the frame and the mattress pieces each being foldable so that, when folded, they together form a pouffe, the whole unit being enclosable within a cover which is merely dropped over the unit.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an improved piece of convertible furniture which is more versatile and compact. This is achieved primarily by the omission of the bed frame and by the adaptation of the hinged mattress pieces.

In accordance with the present invention there is provided a pouffe/bed comprising two mattresses each comprising a plurality of elements hinged together so that when folded up they form a stack and when unfolded they form an elongate mattress, and a cover which when the two mattresses are stacked in folded form on one other can be fitted to enclose the mattress stack totally, thereby to form a cuboidal unit which can be used as a pouffe.

The cover is preferably a fabric case, one face of which is hinged along one edge and which has closure means fitted along the other three edges. The closure means may comprise a sliding clasp fastener, fastening material such as that known by the registered trade mark "Velcro", or press-stud fasteners. The provision of a totally enclosing cover with only fabric-covered foam mattress pieces within it means that the unit is relatively cheap to produce and is extremely light in weight and easy to handle. The unit can also be moved around a room easily without the cover being in any way displaced, making it ideal for a child's room.

An embodiment of pouffe/bed in accordance with the present invention will now be described by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawing, which shows a convertible pouffe/double bed.

Referring to the drawing, this shows a convertible unit which comprises two separate hinged mattresses, each element of which is of the order of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 inches in thickness. Each mattress comprises three square pieces 10 of foam material or the equivalent, covered in fabric

and joined together to be foldable by means of a pair of fabric hinges 12. When unfolded, this provides mattresses each having a length to width ratio of 3 to 1. Thus, one may have (a) a pouffe formed by stacking the two folded mattresses upon one another; (b) a single bed having a thickness of 5 to 6 inches; (c) two independent single beds each  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 inches thick; or (d) a double bed achieved by placing the two single mattresses side-by-side.

When folded and stacked one on top of the other the mattresses are arranged to be fitted within a fabric cover or case 14. This forms a totally enclosing cover for the mattresses. One face 16 of the cover has a fabric hinge 18 along one edge, and a U-shaped sliding clasp fastener 20 is provided around the other three edges of this face of the cover. The face 16 of the cover is preferably the bottom of the cover and is out of sight in use. Alternative fastening arrangements, such as referred to above, may be used in place of the sliding clasp fastener 20. It is also possible, although less attractive, to make the one face 16 of the cover completely separate from the rest of the cover and to provide fastening means around all four edges of it. However, a cover with the opening face secured by a fabric hinge has the advantage that it is not possible then to lose part of the cover and a more compact arrangement is achieved.

It is important to note that with the dimensions of the components as given above, one obtains a single bed with a length or width ratio of 3 to 1, a double bed with a length to width ratio of 3 to 2, and a square topped pouffe with a top face dimension to height ratio of 5 to 3.

### Claims

1. A pouffe/bed comprising two mattresses each comprising a plurality of elements hinged together so that when folded up they form a stack and when unfolded they form an elongate mattress, and a cover which when the two mattresses are stacked in folded form one on another can be fitted to enclose the mattress stack totally, thereby to form a cuboidal unit which can be used as a pouffe.

2. A pouffe/bed as claimed in claim 1, in which the cover is a fabric case, one face of which is hinged along one edge and which has closure means fitted along the other three edges.

3. A pouffe/bed as claimed in claim 2, in which the closure means comprises a sliding clasp fastener.

4. A pouffe/bed as claimed in any preceding claim, in which each mattress has three hinged elements.

5. A pouffe/bed as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the mattress elements are dimensioned so that one can obtain a single bed with a length to width ratio of 3 to 1, a double bed with a length to width ratio of 3 to 2, and a square-topped pouffe with a top face dimension to height ratio of 5 to 3.

6. A pouffe/bed as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the mattress elements are each formed of a synthetic foam plastics material.

7. A pouffe/bed substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

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